

**Subject:** STIP Commehts from an interested and impacted citizen

**From:** Rick G <rick@akgrams.net>

**Date:** Fri, 30 Dec 2005 15:41:26 -0900

**To:** commissioner\_dotpf@dot.state.ak.us

**CC:** Senator\_Bert\_Stedman@legis.state.ak.us, Rep\_Jim\_Elkins@legis.state.ak.us, mayor@city.ketchikan.ak.us, cm3@city.ketchikan.ak.us, cm1@city.ketchikan.ak.us, cm6@city.ketchikan.ak.us, cm2@city.ketchikan.ak.us, cm5@city.ketchikan.ak.us, cm4@city.ketchikan.ak.us, cm7@city.ketchikan.ak.us, joe.williams@borough.ketchikan.ak.us, dave.kiffer@borough.ketchikan.ak.us, david.landis@borough.ketchikan.ak.us, george.lybrand@borough.ketchikan.ak.us, mike.painter@borough.ketchikan.ak.us, john.harrington@borough.ketchikan.ak.us, glen.thompson@borough.ketchikan.ak.us, maggie.sarber@borough.ketchikan.ak.us

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Commissioner Mike Barton

Alaska Department of Transportation

Juneau, AK 99811

VIA EMAIL

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Re: STIP COMMENTS

Commissioner Barton:

As an interested and impacted citizen, I would like to submit the following STIP comments relative to the Gravina Island Bridge.

**GOAL: PROGRAM THE FINAL STIP TO ALLOW CONSTRUCTION BIDDING IN 2006 FOR THE GRAVINA ISLAND BRIDGE PROJECT.**

The Department of Transportation must program this project in the final STIP in a manner which allows for going out to construction bid in 2006 while having the least impact on the rest of the state.

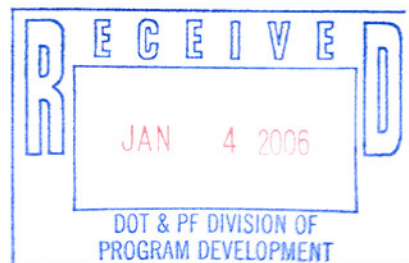
Commissioner, as you know Ketchikan overwhelmingly voted in favor of the bridge and we still support the F-1 alternative. As we work toward our common goal of making this project reality, I would ask that at your direction, the Department of Transportation produce a realistic financing plan and have it approved by the Federal Highway Administration as soon as possible. Please also look into all available tools at your disposal, including advance construction, which can get this project on the street by the end of calendar year 2006.

The Ralph M. Bartholomew Veterans Memorial Bridge is Ketchikan's future. We, and the Delegation, have been working on this project for over 30 years. With the closure of our pulp mill, the bridge has taken on an even more urgent role in our prospect for a true and viable economic recovery. I look forward to your insight and knowledge as we work together to bring this project to reality.

Best Regards,

Rick Grams

Ketchikan Citizen



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